

teach and practice an "order" of dress? If they did give us the facts and circumstances.

6 Why do your preachers encourage the muzzling of the faithful contrary to the express command, and uniformly compel the following of a secular calling on the part of the ministry;

7 If Progressives are such unprincipled people, why has your organization adopted nearly every measure that caused the division in 1881, for which thousands of our people were expelled?

## The Home

### I Have a Friend

I have a Friend so precious,  
So very dear to me,  
He loves me with such tender love,  
He loves so faithfully,  
I could not live apart from Him,  
I love to feel Him nigh,  
And so we dwell together,  
My Lord and I.

Sometimes I'm faint and weary,  
He knows that I am weak,  
And as He bids me lean on Him,  
His help I gladly seek;  
He leads me in the paths of light  
Beneath a sunny sky,  
And so we walk together,  
My Lord and I.

—Old Huguenot Hymn.

### THE BETTER WAY

C. H. WETHERBE

There are very many young people who greatly wish to be so helped by their parents and friends that they need not exert themselves to provide for the necessary expenses of their living and luxuries, and there are numerous parents and others who foolishly humor young people in that way. Scarcely a worse course could be pursued. The better way is that of inducing young people to early begin to provide for themselves, however wealthy their parents may be. Every youth should be made to engage in some kind of useful labor, and at the same time learn the value of a dollar. The lack of such a training has been the bad bane of thousands of young people. And the same principle applies to churches. Too many of the weak churches of the land are actually injured by being financially aided by some society of their denominations, or by some annuity which they receive. They lean upon such help too much, and so they fail to develop the best qualities and powers which are in them.

The editor of the Cumberland Presbyterian says: "We have in mind a church which had always helped itself but was induced to accept help from a missionary board which was scarcely able to afford the aid in question. That church has never prospered since. Another church had leaned on the board for a generation, but was induced to help itself, and the first year of its self respect and independence it produced four times as much revenue as it had ever done, making its yearly footing nearly twice as much as the work of the board and itself before. We have heard of another congregation which for thirty years never had a thought

about its financial affairs. That church is not now on the denominational roll, having long ago died of *ennui*". In other words, that church dried up for want of cultivating the habit of giving to the cause of Christ according to the prosperity of each member. This is the terrible mischief of thousands of weak churches. It is no mystery that they keep weak and fruitless. The better way is indicted by the example of that church to which the editor referred, the one that depends upon itself for raising necessary expenses, doing the duty which belongs to itself and not to other people.

I believe that if those weak churches which are now depending upon financial help from abroad would devote what means they have to the work at home a spiritual awakening would soon follow and they would receive both temporal and eternal blessing.

### The Personal Christ

WILLIAM L. LEDWITH

What the world needs is not the knowledge of the historical Christ, but personal fellowship with the living and ever-present Saviour. The young are specially susceptible to his gracious influence and responsive to his loving call. Before the evil days come, which turn the mind from the thought of holy things their hearts should be made to feel not only the beauty and the power of the truth as it is in Jesus, but that Christ is himself the way, the truth and the life.

While it is all important to bring them to the law and the testimony in order that there may be the starting right with good principles, they should be made to feel that in Christ all these things are given in the form of a perfect example; that we should follow in his footsteps. With the individual knowledge there should also be the individual consciousness that Christ is in them the hope of glory. All such should be able to say to their teachers as did the Samaritans: "Now we believe not because of thy saying; for we have heard him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ."

It is important to keep sharply marked the distinction between religious principle and mere religious sentiment. But at the same time there must be a care that dogmatic truth shall not take the place of the revealed Christ. The need is that one hide himself in Jesus. As the heart receives the first principles of the doctrine of Christ, then there should be the growing into the likeness and image of him who loves and saves. In this way we have the sure basis for that helpful development in Christian character, revealing itself in the purified heart, the sound judgment and the sanctified will.

The psalm of life must be in accord with the keynote of the gospel. This is the likeness of Christ. If there is the mere mental recognition of scripture facts and truths, there will be the going forth of imperfect notes. The ear will listen in vain to catch the sweet strains of divine melody which

always come from the heart in which the spirit of Christ dwells.

Every one needs to become a new creature in Christ Jesus. Then the great truths that are taught and received become incarnate. They enter into our very being and speak in all that we do or say.

Whenever a teacher comes before his class he should almost hear them saying, as did certain Greeks when they came to Philip: "Sir, we would see Jesus." Hilda, one of Hawthorne's characters, is described as sitting before Guido's Beatrice, which she was not permitted to copy. Day after day she would go and gaze upon it. Then with the deep impressions which had been made upon her she would steal away and quietly transfer them to the canvas. So she continued until she had made the picture her own.

And so in all our teaching. We should lead the young learners in the school of Christ to ever look unto him and gaze upon him as the only Advocate and Redeemer. And then as they are filled with the mind and spirit of the Lord they can go forth with the living Christ within them, and as "radiant realities" they will show forth whose they are, and who they serve. When the saving truth of the Lord becomes incarnate in the soul, as Christ dwells in it richly, then really begins the work of training in discipleship, for good of the soul that believes, and the glory of Christ who saves.

## Sisters' S. C. E.

### From the President

A letter has just been received from Peru, Indiana, written by Estella Oswalt, that pleases me. She asks for an S. S. C. E. constitution that their new church may begin with a well organized Sisters Society. That is Indiana church enterprise. Instead of waiting to be persuaded to work for the church, how much more like Christ to watch for opportunities to do something for him. When once you open a loving heart to all mankind, look with a seeing eye, reach out with a helping hand you'll be amazed at the many souls awaiting your touch. The added good that may be done in your church thru the sisters organization is unknown until you have a working band. Like the church mentioned above, don't wait till the organizer visits you, but write me for what you want, then with the pastor's assistance you can organize and begin work at once.

A convention for the deepening of the spiritual life was held at the Brethren church No. 2 as Brother Cassel calls it. I speak of Brother Atwood's mission. Mrs. Atwood is Brother Braker's sister. Among the speakers present were Dr. Fox of Waterbury, Connecticut; R. B. Swan, Duxbury, Mass.; Girard Helma, Bancroft, Maine. They emphasize the Apostle's gifts and practices. As a result of the indwelling Holy Spirit, they teach that at least one of the gifts mentioned in Cor. 12, should follow. Mr. Helma par-